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# WEBSTER'S NEW UNIVERSAL UNABRIDGED DICTIONARY

DELUXE  
SECOND EDITION

BASED UPON THE BROAD FOUNDATIONS LAID DOWN BY

Noah Webster

EXTENSIVELY REVISED BY THE PUBLISHER'S EDITORIAL STAFF UNDER THE GENERAL SUPERVISION OF

JEAN L. McKECHNIE

INCLUDING ETYMOLOGIES, FULL PRONUNCIATIONS, SYNONYMS, AND AN ENCYCLOPEDIA SUPPLEMENT OF  
GEOGRAPHICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL DATA, SCRIPTURE PROPER NAMES, FOREIGN WORDS AND PHRASES,  
PRACTICAL BUSINESS MATHEMATICS, ABBREVIATIONS, TABLES OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES, SIGNS AND  
SYMBOLS, AND FORMS OF ADDRESS

ILLUSTRATED THROUGHOUT

**Dorset & Baber**

# WEBSTER'S NEW TWENTIETH CENTURY DICTIONARY

Second Edition

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FUL

- sod**<sup>1</sup>-dal-ist, *n.* a member of a sodality.
- sod**<sup>2</sup>-da-lite, *n.* a silicate of sodium and aluminum with some chlorine,  $\text{Na}_2\text{Al}_2\text{Si}_2\text{O}_7\text{Cl}$ ; it resembles marble when polished and is used as an ornamental stone.
- sod**<sup>3</sup>-dal-ty, *n.*; *pl.* **sod**<sup>3</sup>-dal-ty-ties, [*L. sodalitas*, from *sodalis*, a companion.]
- fellowship.
  - an association or brotherhood.
  - in the Roman Catholic Church, a lay association formed to carry on devotional or charitable activity.
- sod**<sup>4</sup>-da-lye, *a* lye consisting of a solution of sodium hydrate in water.
- sod**<sup>5</sup>-dam-ide (or -id), *a* crystalline fusible substance,  $\text{NaNH}_2$ , produced by heating sodium in ammonia.
- sod**<sup>6</sup>-da pop, *a* soft drink made of carbonated water with various, often artificial flavorings, sold in tightly capped bottles or cans.
- sod**<sup>7</sup>-da wa-fer, *1.* water charged under pressure with carbon dioxide gas, used in making ice-cream sodas, mixed drinks, etc.  
*2.* a solution of water, acid, and sodium bicarbonate, used for the same purposes.
- sod**<sup>8</sup>-den, *a*, [*obs. past participle of seethe*.]
- filled with moisture; soaked through.
  - moist or heavy as a result of improper baking or cooking; soggy, as bread.
  - dull, stupid; not lively or alert, as from fatigue or overindulgence.
  - boiled or steeped. [*Rare*.]
  - having a boiled, soaked, or bloated look.
- sod**<sup>9</sup>-den, *v.i.* to become sodden.
- sod**<sup>10</sup>-den, *v.t.* to make sodden.
- sod**<sup>11</sup>-dy, *a.*; *comp.* **soddi**; *superl.* **soddiest**, consisting of sod; covered with sod; turfy.
- sod**<sup>12</sup>-dic, *a.* relating to or containing sodium.
- sod**<sup>13</sup>-di-um, *n.* [*Mod.L., from soda*.] *a* waxy, unstable, silver-white metal which is found in nature only in combined form and is extremely active chemically: symbol,  $\text{Na}$  (for *natrum*); atomic weight, 22.997; atomic number, 11.
- sod**<sup>14</sup>-di-um ben-zo-ate, *a* sweet, odorless, white powder,  $\text{NaC}_6\text{H}_5\text{O}_2$ , the sodium salt of benzoic acid, used as a food preservative, antiseptic, etc.
- sod**<sup>15</sup>-di-um bi-car-bon-ate, *a* white, crystalline compound,  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ , used in baking powder, as an antacid, etc.; also called *baking soda*.
- sod**<sup>16</sup>-di-um bro-mide, *a* white, crystalline compound,  $\text{NaBr}$ , used in medicine as a sedative and in photography to produce silver bromide.
- sod**<sup>17</sup>-di-um car-bon-ate, *1.* the anhydrous sodium salt of carbonic acid,  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ ; also called *soda ash*.  
*2.* any of the hydrated carbonates of sodium, especially the colorless, crystalline compound  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3 \cdot 10\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , commonly called *sod soda* or *washing soda*.
- sod**<sup>18</sup>-di-um chlor-ate, *a* colorless, crystalline salt,  $\text{NaClO}_3$ , used as an oxidizing agent in matches, explosives, etc.
- sod**<sup>19</sup>-di-um chlor-ide, *a* common salt,  $\text{NaCl}$ .
- sod**<sup>20</sup>-di-um cy-an-ide, *a* white, highly poisonous salt,  $\text{NaCN}$ , used in electroplating, as an insecticide, etc.
- sod**<sup>21</sup>-di-um di-chrom-ate, *a* red, crystalline salt,  $\text{Na}_2\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7$ , used as an oxidizing agent, antiseptic, etc.
- sod**<sup>22</sup>-di-um hy-drox-ide, *a* white substance,  $\text{NaOH}$ , in the form of powder, flakes, sticks, etc., widely used in chemistry, oil refining, paper and rayon manufacture, etc.; also called *caustic soda*, *lye*, *sodium hydrate*.
- sod**<sup>23</sup>-di-um hy-po-chlor-ate, *a* greenish, unstable salt,  $\text{NaOCl}$ , usually stored in solution, used especially as a bleaching agent and disinfectant.
- sod**<sup>24</sup>-di-um hy-po-sul-fite, *1.* a clear, crystalline salt,  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_4$ , used as a chemical reagent.  
*2.* sodium thiosulfate.
- sod**<sup>25</sup>-di-um light (lit), *a* yellow light of burning sodium vapor.
- sod**<sup>26</sup>-di-um ni-trate, *a* clear, odorless, crystalline salt,  $\text{NaNO}_3$ , used in manufacturing nitric acid, explosives, fertilizers, etc., and as a reagent and oxidizing agent in chemistry; also called *Chile saltpeter*.
- sod**<sup>27</sup>-di-um pen-ta-thal, *see pentothal sodium*.
- sod**<sup>28</sup>-di-um per-ox-ide, *a* yellowish-white powder,  $\text{Na}_2\text{O}_2$ , used as a bleaching agent, air and water purifier, and oxidizing agent.
- sod**<sup>29</sup>-di-um phos-phate, *any of three* clear, crystalline sodium salts of phosphoric acid widely used in industry.
- sod**<sup>30</sup>-di-um sul-fate, *a* white, crystalline salt,

$\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , used in medicine and in the making of dyes, glass, etc.

**sod**<sup>31</sup>-di-um sul-fite, *a* white salt,  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_3$ , in the form of crystals or powder, used in dyeing, engraving, and photography, and as a bleaching agent, etc.

**sod**<sup>32</sup>-di-um thi-o-sul-fate, *a* white, crystalline salt,  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_5$ , used as an antichlor, as a fixing agent in photography, etc.; popularly but incorrectly called (*sodium*) *hyposulfite* or *hypo*.

**sod**<sup>33</sup>-di-um va-por lamp, *a* globe fitted with two electrodes and filled with sodium vapor, which sheds a yellow, glareless light when electric current is passed through it; also *sodium lamp*.

**sod**<sup>34</sup> oil, oil obtained from sheepskin.

**Sod**<sup>35</sup>-om, in the Bible, a city destroyed by fire together with a neighboring city, Gomorrah, because of the sinfulness of the people: Gen. xviii-xix.

**Sod**<sup>36</sup>-om-ite, *n.* *1.* an inhabitant of Sodom.

*2.* [*s-*] a person who practices sodomy.

**sod**<sup>37</sup>-om-ic-ity, *a*, pertaining to sodomy.

**sod**<sup>38</sup>-om-ize, *v.t.*; *sodomized*, *pt.*, *pp.*; *sodomizing*, *ppr.* to engage in sodomy with; specifically, to forcibly subject to sodomy.

**sod**<sup>39</sup>-om-y, *n.* any sexual intercourse regarded as abnormal, as between persons of the same sex, especially males, or between a person and an animal.

**sod**<sup>40</sup>, *n.* [*AS. sœ; Fr. seau, a bucket*.] *a* large wooden vessel for holding water; *a* cowl. [*Dial.*]

**sod**<sup>41</sup>-er, *adv.* [*so and ever*.]

*1.* in any way; to any extent or degree (usually following *how* and an adjective); as, *how dark soever* the night may be.

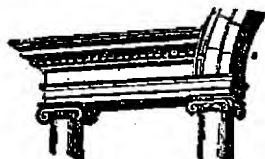
*2.* of any kind; at all; whatever; as, *no rest soever*.

**-sod**<sup>42</sup>-er, *a* combining form added for emphasis or generalization to *who*, *what*, *when*, *where*, *how*, etc., and meaning *any* (person, thing, time, place, or manner) of *all those possible*.

**sod**<sup>43</sup>-fa, *n.* [*Fr. and Sp. sofa*, *a* sofa, from *Ar. sofah*, cushion on a saddle for a camel,] *a* upholstered couch, usually of spring construction, with fixed back and arms.

**sod**<sup>44</sup>-fa bed, *a* sofa adapted for use as a bed.

**sod**<sup>45</sup>-far, *n.* [*sound fixing and ranging*.] *a* system for determining the location of underwater sounds as far as 2000 miles from shore, which facilitates the rescue of survivors of sea disasters.



A. A. SODFA

**sod**<sup>46</sup>-it, *n.* [*Fr. soffite*; *It. soffitta*, from *L. suffusus*.] in architecture, (a) the lower surface of a vault or arch; (b) the under horizontal face of an architrave between columns; (c) the ceiling of an apartment divided by cross-beams into compartments; (d) the under part of an overhanging cornice, cave, etc.

**soft**<sup>47</sup>, *a.*; *comp.* **softer**; *superl.* **softest**, [*AS. softe*, gentle, quiet; akin to *G. sanft*.]

*1.* giving way easily under pressure, as a feather pillow or moist clay; easily shaped or worked.

*2.* easily cut, marked, or worn away, as pine wood or pure gold.

*3.* not hard for its kind; not as hard as is normal, desirable, etc.; as, *soft butter*.

*4.* smooth or fine to the touch; not rough, harsh, or coarse.

*5.* bland; not acid, sour, or sharp.

*6.* nonalcoholic; said of drinks.

*7.* having in solution few or none of the mineral salts that interfere with the lathering and cleansing properties of soap; said of water.

*8.* mild, gentle, or temperate, as a breeze, the weather, climate, etc.

*9.* weak; delicate; not strong or vigorous; not able to endure hardship, privation, etc.

*10.* requiring little effort; not difficult; easy; as, *he has a very soft job*.

*11.* (a) kind or gentle, especially to the point of weakness; not severe; lenient or compassionate; (b) easily impressed, influenced, or imposed upon.

*12.* subdued; not bright or intense: said of color.

*13.* showing little contrast or distinctness; not sharp; as, *a soft etching*, *a soft line* or border.

*14.* gentle; low; not loud or harsh: said of sound.

*15.* in phonetics, (a) sibilant: said of *c* and *s*, as in *cirus*, and *German*; (b) lenis, or lenis and voiced; (c) palatalized, as certain consonants in Slavic languages.

*Syn.*—mild, gentle, pliant, yielding, impressive, smooth, plastic, pliable, bland, compliant, irrelative, submissive, mellifluous.

**soft**<sup>48</sup>, *n.* something soft; *a* soft part.

**soft**<sup>49</sup>, *adv.* softly; gently; quietly.

**soft**<sup>50</sup>, *interj.* *1.* be quiet! hush! [*Archaic*.]

*2.* slow up! stop! [*Archaic*.]

**soft**<sup>51</sup>-ta, *n.* [*Turk.*] in Turkey, a pupil of a secondary school engaged in professional studies, especially in theological studies.

**soft**<sup>52</sup>-ball, *n.* *1.* a kind of baseball played with a ball larger and softer than the ordinary baseball, and sometimes without gloves.  
*2.* the ball used.

**soft**<sup>53</sup>-boiled, *a.* boiled only a short time so that the yolk is soft: said of eggs.

**soft**<sup>54</sup> clam, the common clam, *Mya arenaria*.

**soft**<sup>55</sup> coal, coal that yields pitch and tar when it is burned and makes more smoke and ashes than hard coal; also called *bituminous coal*.

**soft**<sup>56</sup> crab, *a* soft-shelled crab.

**soft**<sup>57</sup> drink, *a* nonalcoholic drink, especially a carbonated drink.

**soft**<sup>58</sup>-ten (soft'n), *v.t.*; *softened*, *pt.*, *pp.*; *softening*, *ppr.* to make soft or softer as (a) to make less hard in substance; (b) to mollify; to make less fierce or intractable; to make more susceptible of humane or fine feelings; as, *to soften a hard heart*; (c) to make less harsh or severe, less rude, less offensive or violent; as, *to soften an expression*; (d) to palliate; to represent as less enormous; as, *to soften a fault*; (e) to make easy; to compose; to mitigate; to alleviate; (f) to make calm and placid; (g) to make less glaring; to tone down; as, *to soften the coloring of a picture*; (h) to make tender; to make effeminate; to enervate; as, *troops softened by luxury*; (i) to make less strong or intense in sound; to make less loud; to make smooth to the ear; as, *to soften the voice*.

*Syn.*—mollify, palliate, mitigate, moderate.

**soft**<sup>59</sup>-ten (soft'n), *v.i.* to become soft or softer, as (a) to become more pliable and yielding to pressure; (b) to become less rude, harsh, or cruel; (c) to become less obstinate or obdurate; to become more susceptible of humane feelings and tenderness; to relent; (d) to pass by soft imperceptible degrees; to melt; to blend.

**soft**<sup>60</sup>-ten-er, *n.* something that softens, as a positively charged compound added to water to treating fabrics to make them softer and fluffier (in full, *fabric softener*).

**soft**<sup>61</sup>-ten-ing, *n.* the act of making less hard, less cruel or obdurate, less violent, less glaring, etc.

*softening of the brain*; (a) degeneration of the brain tissues into a soft, fatty substance; (b) in popular usage, progressive dementia.

**soft**<sup>62</sup>-finned, *a.* having fins without spines; malacopterygian.

**soft**<sup>63</sup>-goods, *n.pl.* goods that last a relatively short time, especially textile products; also *soft goods*.

**soft**<sup>64</sup> grass, *a* perennial grass, *Holcus lanatus*, of the Old World, introduced from Europe as a meadow grass into the United States, characterized by its pale color and its velvety softness; also called *velvet grass*.

**soft**<sup>65</sup>-head (-hed), *n.* *a* stupid or feeble-minded person; *a* simpleton.

**soft**<sup>66</sup>-head'ed (-hed'), *a.* stupid or foolish.

**soft**<sup>67</sup>-heart'ed, *a.* *1.* full of compassion or tenderness.

*2.* not strict or severe, as in discipline.

**soft**<sup>68</sup>-heart'ed-ness, *n.* the quality or state of being softhearted.

**soft**<sup>69</sup>-le, *n.*; *pl.* **soft**<sup>69</sup>-les, *a* softy. [*Colloq.*]

**soft**<sup>70</sup>-lah, *a.* somewhat soft.

**soft**<sup>71</sup> land'ing, *a* safe landing, as of a spacecraft on the moon, in which the craft and its contents remain unharmed.

**soft**<sup>72</sup>-ling, *n.* an effeminate person.

**soft**<sup>73</sup>-ly, *adv.* without hardness; in a soft manner; without noise; gently; mildly; tenderly.

**soft**<sup>74</sup>-ner, *n.* same as *softener*.

**soft**<sup>75</sup>-ness, *n.* the quality or state of being soft.

## easiness

2. without pain, anxiety, or disturbance; in tranquillity; as, to pass life well and easily.  
 3. readily; without reluctance.  
 4. smoothly; quietly; gently; without violent shaking or jolting; as, a carriage moves easily.  
 5. without a doubt; by far; as, she is easily the best dancer.  
 6. very likely; as, the train may easily be late.

**easy-ness**, *n.* 1. the state of being easy to do or get.

2. careless indifference; nonchalance.  
 3. freedom from stiffness, constraint, effort, or formality; poise; ease of manner; as, easiness of style.

**east**, *n.* [ME. *east*, *ast*, *east*; AS. *east*, D. *oost*, *oosten*; O.H.G. *ostan*; G. *ost*, *osten*; Dan. *ost*, *osten*; Ice. *aust*; L. *aurora*, for *ausosa*, dawn, the east; Gr. *ēōs*, *hēōs*.]

1. the direction in which sunrise occurs; that point of the horizon lying on the right hand of one facing north.

2. the point of the compass at 90°, in a direction at right angles to that of north and south, and directly opposite west.

3. a region or district in or toward this direction.

4. [E-] the eastern parts of the earth, especially Asia and the nearby islands; the Orient.  
*down East*: (a) New England, especially Maine; (b) in, to, or toward this region. [Colloq.]

*the East*: the eastern part of the United States; specifically, (a) the part east of the Allegheny Mountains, from Maine through Maryland; (b) the part east of the Mississippi and north of the Ohio.

**east**, *a.* 1. toward, to, of, in, or facing the east; as, the east gate; the east border; the east side.

2. from the east; as, the east wind.

3. [E-] designating the eastern part of a continent, country, etc.; as, East Africa, East Ohio.

4. in ecclesiastical usage, situated in the direction of the altar of a church, looking from the nave.

**east**, *adv.* in an easterly direction; in or toward the east; eastward; as, to steer east.

**east**, *v.i.* to move in the direction of the east; to veer toward the east; to orient.

**east-a-bout**, *adv.* in the direction of the east.

**east-bound**, *a.* bound east; going eastward.

**east by north**, the direction, or the point on a mariner's compass, halfway between due east and east-northeast; 11°15' north of due east.

**east by south**, the direction, or the point on a mariner's compass, halfway between due east and east-southeast; 11°15' south of due east.

**east'er**, *v.i.* in nautical usage, to veer or shift to the east, as the wind. [Rare.]

**East'er**, *n.* [ME. *ester*, *aster*; AS. *ēastre*, *ēāstran*, a paschal feast, originally a pagan festival in honor of the Goddess of Spring, *Ēastre*, held in April.]

1. an annual Christian festival in commemoration of the resurrection of Jesus, held on the first Sunday after the date of the first full moon that occurs on or after March 21.

2. the Sunday on which Easter is held; often called *Easter Sunday*.

**East'er dūes** or *off'er-ings*, in the Church of England, money paid to the parochial clergy by the parishioners at Easter.

**East'er egg**, a colored egg or an egg-shaped piece of candy, etc., used as an Easter gift or ornament.

**East'er flow'ér**, *Euphorbia* or *Poinsettia pulcherrima*, a Brazilian shrub of the spurge family, the flowers of which are surrounded by large, brilliant bracts.

**East'er giv'ant**, *Polygonum bistorta*, the bistort.

**East'er-ling**, *n.* a native of some country eastward of another; formerly, in England, a trader from the Baltic. [Archaic.]

**East'er-ly**, *a.* 1. coming from the eastward; as, an easterly wind.

2. in, of, or toward the east.

**East'er-ly**, *adv.* 1. from the east; as, the wind blew easterly.

2. toward the east.

**East'ern**, *a.* [ME. *estern*; AS. *eastern*.]

1. from the east; as, an eastern wind.

2. in, of, toward, or facing the east.

3. [E-] of or characteristic of the East.

**East'ern**, *n.* an easterner.

**East'ern Church**, 1. originally, the Christian Church in the Eastern Roman Empire, consisting of the four patriarchates in eastern Europe, western Asia, and Egypt, headed by the Bishops of Constantinople, Alexandria, Antioch, and Jerusalem; distinguished from

the Western Church, the patriarchate in western Europe and North Africa, headed by the Bishop of Rome.

2. the Orthodox Eastern Church.

3. all Catholics who practice the Eastern rite but acknowledge the supreme authority of the Pope, Uniate.

**East'ern Em'pire**, the Byzantine Empire.

**East'ern-er**, *n.* 1. a native or inhabitant of the east.

2. [E-] a native or inhabitant of the eastern part of the United States.

**East'ern Hem'i-sphere**, that half of the earth which includes Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia.

**East'ern-most**, *a.* farthest to the east; most eastern.

**East'ern Rō'mān Em'pire**, the empire formed by the division of the Roman Empire at the death of Theodosius I in 395 A.D.; it was ended by the Turkish conquest of Constantinople, its capital, in 1453.

**East'ern Shore**, the eastern shore of Chesapeake Bay, especially the part in Maryland.

**East'ern Stand'ard Time**, one of the four standard times in the United States, corresponding to the mean local time of the 75th meridian west of Greenwich, England; it is five hours behind Greenwich time.

**East'er-tide**, [*Easter*, and *tide* (time).] the period after Easter, extending in various churches to Ascension Day, Whitsunday, or Trinity Sunday.

**East In'di-a Cōm-pā-ny**, any of several European companies for exploiting trade with the East Indies, having special trading rights and government support; especially, such an English company, first chartered in 1600 and dissolved in 1874.

**East In'di-a-mān**, a ship engaged in the East India trade.

**East In'di-an**, 1. pertaining to or belonging to the East Indies, its people, etc.

2. a native or inhabitant of the East Indies.

**East'ing**, *n.* 1. in surveying and in sailing, the distance eastward from a given meridian; the distance gained by a ship on an easterly course.

2. a turning, or veering, to the east.

3. an easterly direction.

**East-north-east**, *n.* the direction, or the point on a mariner's compass, halfway between due east and northeast; 22°30' north of due east.

**East-north-east**, *adv.* and *a.* 1. in or toward the east-northeast.

2. from this direction; as, an east-northeast wind.

**East-south-east**, *n.* the direction, or the point on a mariner's compass, halfway between due east and southeast; 22°30' south of due east.

**East-south-east**, *adv.* and *a.* 1. in or toward the east-southeast.

2. from this direction; as, an east-southeast wind.

**East'ward**, *adv.* toward the east; in the direction of east.

**East'ward**, *a.* having a direction toward the east.

**East'ward**, *n.* an eastward direction, point, or region.

**East'ward-ly**, *adv.* and *a.* 1. toward the east.

2. from the east; as, an eastwardly wind.

**Easy**, *a.* comp. easier; *superl.* easiest. 1. at ease; being at rest; free from pain, annoyance, anxiety, care, or peevishness; quiet; tranquil; as, an easy mind.

2. comfortable; free from want; affording a comfortable living without toil; as, easy circumstances.

3. not difficult; not heavy or burdensome; giving or requiring no great labor or exertion; presenting no great obstacles; as, an easy task.

4. giving no pain or uneasiness; affording comfort, rest, or relaxation; pleasant; as, an easy posture; an easy carriage.

5. gentle; moderate; not fast; unhurried; as, a ship under easy sail.

6. yielding with little or no resistance; complying; readily influenced; tractable.

7. not constrained; not stiff, awkward, embarrassed, or formal; as, easy manners; an easy address.

8. fond of comfort, ease, or idleness.

9. not strict, harsh, or severe; lenient; tolerant.

10. in business, (a) in little demand; said of a commodity; (b) lacking firmness in prices; said of a market; (c) with funds plentiful and

## eaves

interest rates low; said of a money market. Opposed to *light*.

11. in card games, evenly divided between opponents; as, easy aces.

*on easy street*; well-to-do; in easy circumstances.

*to go easy on*; (a) to use or consume with restraint; as, *go easy on the paper*; (b) to deal with leniently; as, *to go easy on traffic violators*. [Colloq.]

*to take it easy*; (a) to refrain from anger, violence, haste, etc.; (b) to refrain from hard work; to rest; to relax. Sometimes used as a farewell. [Colloq.]

**Easy chair**, a cushioned armchair or other lounge chair.

**Easy-gō'ing**, *adv.* easily. [Colloq.]

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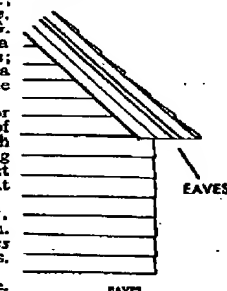
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use, bull, brute, turn, up; cry, myth; cat, machine, ace, church, chord; gem, anger, (Fr.) bon, as; this, thin; azure

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